Land Records
in the
United Provinces of Agra
and Oudh, report on the
administration, 1905-06 to 1908-09

BOMBAY BRANCH
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.
TOWN HALL, BOMBAY.

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 1906.

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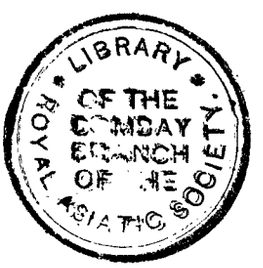
1905-06 to 1908-09



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No. $\frac{124}{VII-47-3}$, dated the 10th April 1907.

From—H. R. C. HAILEY, ESQ., *Joint Secretary to the Board of Revenue, United Provinces,*

To—Chief Secretary to Government, United Provinces.

Present:

THE HON'BLE MR. D. C. BAILLIE.

SIR,—I am directed to submit, for the information of Government, the report by the Director of land records and agriculture, United Provinces, on the administration of the Land Records department for the year ending 30th September 1906. In accordance with the orders of the Government of India, this report has been submitted separately from that on the operations of the department of Agriculture.

2. The year witnessed the introduction of several important developments in the reorganization of the department, which should tend materially to increase its efficiency. The pay of the sadr kanungos has been raised and their number in the heavier districts increased; they have been provided with an adequate staff of assistants, who will relieve them of part of their office work, and thus enable them to spend more time on tour and in inspecting work of supervisor and registrar kanungos. A much needed addition has been made to the staff of supervisor kanungos, forty-three new appointments having been created in the Agra province. This will permit of the reduction of overgrown circles to manageable dimensions. The pay of assistant registrar kanungos has been raised from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. The wider question of the improvement of the pay and prospects of supervisor kanungos, with which the future of the agricultural college, Cawnpore, is closely connected, has been dealt with by the Director and the Board, and the proposals are under consideration of Government.

3. As regards the subordinate staff, the minimum pay of all patwaris and assistant patwaris has been raised to Rs. 8 and Rs. 6 respectively throughout the provinces, except in those districts for which schemes of reallocation are being prepared. The scales of pay have been revised in four of the eastern districts, and in three other districts schemes of reallocation have been introduced on sanction. The total cost of these changes involves an annual increase in pay of Rs. 91,000. The Board are pleased to observe that it has been found possible to give promotion to a certain number of patwaris during the year: many are well qualified for posts such as those of assistant registrar kanungos, and it is desirable that some prospects of improving their condition should be held out to them as a stimulus to good work.

4. Other proposals brought forward during the year were the introduction of the system of personal pay for patwaris into the Agra province and the maintenance of a provincial staff of teachers and assistant teachers for the patwaris' schools. The former of these measures will provide more satisfactorily for the promotion of deserving patwaris, and strengthen the hands of the Collector in dealing with incompetent men. The latter has been rendered necessary by the difficulty in procuring a competent teaching staff for the patwaris' schools. Both these measures have received the sanction of Government and will be introduced during the current year.

5. In the districts unaffected by famine the patwaris' papers generally are reported to have been filed with punctuality, though in the four districts adversely commented on in last year's report remissness in this respect was again noticeable. The amount of testing done by officers or the head quarter staff showed an increase, and an improvement is reported in most of those districts in which last year the testing was inadequate. In Budaun, Gorakhpur, Rae Bareli, and Gonda, however, the superior district staff failed to devote sufficient attention to this branch of their

duties. While fully admitting that case work in many districts presses heavily on sub-divisional officers, the Board are of opinion that time should be found for the important duty of testing the land records in the early morning during the tour season without materially affecting the time required for case work. Mention is again made of energy being wasted by superior officers in attempting the impossible task of scrutinizing the patwaris' papers instead of devoting their attention to an examination of the supervision exercised by the kanungos over the patwaris. Collectors are, however, said to be alive to this defect, and suitable orders have been issued to check it. The Director's proposals for simplifying the khasra and increasing the accuracy of the khatauni, which have been approved by Government, will go far to check this tendency, and will facilitate the testing of the land records by concentrating attention on rental statistics recorded in the khatauni to the exclusion of the less important agricultural facts regarding crops and cultivation detailed in the khasra. It should be possible, by well directed enquiries from the tenants regarding the khatauni entries within their knowledge, to exercise an adequate check over the kanungo's testing of the patwaris' records, without the more lengthy process of field to field enquiry. In future sub-divisional officers will be required to examine and submit a definite report on the work of each supervisor kanungo once in two years.

6. It is satisfactory to learn that good progress continues to be made in reducing to accuracy the records of rent in the Basti district in which widespread concealment of rent has been reported in the past. Much still remains to be done in the Gorakhpur district, where the records generally are reported to have been neglected. Special proposals are being submitted by the Director to increase the supervising staff during the next cold weather. The Board hope that measures taken to improve the efficiency of the staff may result, in increased accuracy, and that more favourable reports may be received in future regarding the condition of the land records of this district. The Board will instruct the Director in future reports to make mention of the state of the khewats in these two districts.

7. In the concluding section of paragraph 7 of his report the Director draws attention to the misuse of their right of nomination to the post of patwari vested in landholders by section 24, Act III, 1901. The existence of the malpractices referred to by the Director has been known for years. It was brought to notice when the terms of section 24 of the Land Revenue Act were being discussed that there were proprietors who sold the right of appointment to patwariships for cash or sums secured by bonds which the zamindars intended to recover. It was known also that other proprietors who did not actually sell appointments were in the habit of taking from the men they nominated bonds for sums specified on which the patwaris could be at any time sued by the zamindars if they displeased them. In spite of the existence of information on these points the legislature decided to maintain the zamindar's right of nomination. The reason was not connected with the fact that patwaris were paid from a cess but from a conviction that a better record can ordinarily be obtained from a man the zamindar trusts than from one thrust on him. It appears from the Director's remarks that these practices are spreading, and it is suggested that questions are raised as to the justification of the right of nomination. The Board is not, however, prepared to hold that the decision of the legislature embodied in section 24 is not, as to appointments in general, a wise one. It may, however, be considered whether in mahals in which such malpractices exist the right of nomination should not be withdrawn. Section 24 appears to be widely enough worded to enable Collectors to refuse to appoint men who have secured their appointment by payment or promise of a sum of money, but this point also might, when amendment of the Act is undertaken, be provided for.

8. The year was a full one, in which reforms calculated to have a far-reaching effect on the development of the department were introduced or brought forward. These owe their initiation to Mr. Moreland, by whom the department was, as in previous years, ably and vigorously administered.

REPORT
ON THE
Administration of the Land Records
IN THE
UNITED PROVINCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1906.

No. 724
I—35A.

FROM

W. H. MORELAND, ESQ., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE,
UNITED PROVINCES,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
UNITED PROVINCES.

Dated Lucknow, the 19th January 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the report on the administration of the land records for the year ending 30th September 1906. Under the orders of the Government of India the land records report has been separated from the report on the agricultural work of the department, which has been submitted direct to Government. I am indebted to the two Deputy Directors for the draft of most of the sections contained in this report.

CHAPTER I.

PREFATORY.

Officers on the staff.

2. Mr. E. A. Molony, I.C.S., officiated as Director during my absence on privilege leave from February to April 1906. During the rest of the year I held charge of the department.

3. As stated in last year's report, the reorganization of the department of land records and agriculture included the creation of the post of Deputy Director of land records to relieve the Director of routine duties and to assist in the work of inspection. Mr. C. F. Balfour, I.C.S., was placed on special duty in the department in October 1905 relieving Mr. E. F. Oppenheim, I.C.S., and on receipt of formal sanction to the appointment was gazetted as Deputy Director. On the survey side the post of Superintendent of provincial surveys was abolished and Mr. T. F. Freeman, an officer of the provincial executive service, was appointed Deputy Director for surveys.

Tours of officers.

4. My own tours are now concerned mainly with the agricultural work of the department, and need not be detailed here. It may be noted, however, that in October and November I conducted personally the training of junior civilians in survey, land records, and the principles of the revenue-administration, an institution which has replaced the old system of survey-training under the Superintendent of provincial surveys.

5. During the cold weather the Deputy Director of land records was on tour in Bahraich, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Ballia, Ghazipur and Jaunpur. In April he visited Fatehpur, Muzaffarnagar and Meerut and during the rains inspected the head-quarters work in Etawah, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, Agra, Allahabad, Mirzapur, Jalaun, Jhansi, Gonda, Pilibhit, Bareilly and Budaun.

6. On assuming charge of his duties in October 1905 the Deputy Director for surveys proceeded to Dehra Dun to check the maps of some villages which had recently been revised by amins under the control of a deputy collector. On his return, he inspected the survey offices at Moradabad and Allahabad: after

this he was engaged till April in checking the field work of the Banda and Hamirpur parties, and the office work of the Moradabad party. In July and September 1906 he again inspected the offices of the Banda and Hamirpur parties and also exercised immediate control over the work of the traverse section from 21st April, when Mr. Bell reverted to the Survey of India.

Special features.

7. The most important change during the year was the abolition of the patwari rate and fund. The work of the department, however, except in its financial relation with the Government, has not been affected. During the year a change in the system of training junior civilians was inaugurated as noticed in a preceding paragraph. The proposals for shortening the khasra, and improving the khatauni, for reorganizing the patwari school staff, and for introducing personal pay for the patwaris in Agra are noticed in the next chapter. The changes in the khasra and khatauni, taken with some contemplated alterations in the jamabandi and the khewat, will constitute a fairly complete reorganization of the patwaris' records. The general idea underlying the changes in detail has been to eliminate unnecessary writing and thus secure more time for the accurate preparation of the records,—an important object in view of the steady growth of the volume of work. The necessity of some reorganization of this sort has been recognized for some time; the progress that has been made in working it out is due largely to the willing and able assistance I have received first from Mr. Oppenheim and then from Mr. Balfour.

Apart from the growing complexity of the work, the most serious anxiety for the future is caused by the steady spread of the practice of selling nominations for the post of patwari. This practice has always been known to prevail to some extent in the western districts where the patwaris share in the general prosperity of the people; but the information before me indicates its extension to districts where it was formerly unknown, and its adoption by increasing numbers of the larger landholders. As the patwari is usually unable to pay cash for his nomination, he gives a bond to the landholder, thus entering on his duties under a pecuniary obligation to one of the two parties whose rights and liabilities he has to record; and how serious the result may be to the accuracy of the records will be realized when it is recorded that recently a landholder put a patwari—guilty of some independence—into the civil jail for debt on a bond of this description, action that would ordinarily lead to the patwari's removal from his post. My enquiries into this subject are still incomplete, but I would say here that such action on the part of the principal landholders seems calculated to raise questions as to the practical justification of the right of nomination itself.

CHAPTER II.

Land Records.

Establishment.

8. The sanction of the Secretary of State was received to the general scheme for strengthening the staff of supervisors and sadr kanungos. The heavy districts of Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Basti and Azamgarh have been given a second sadr kanungo, and a much needed addition of 45 has been made to the staff of supervisor kanungos in the province of Agra. The prospects of the sadr kanungos have been improved by placing them on a provincial list in four grades, on Rs. 50, Rs. 60, Rs. 70 and Rs. 80. Their offices have been strengthened, and the provision of a competent indoor staff will permit more time to be given to the duties of supervision and inspection. On the abolition of the patwari fund the designation of the official previously known as patwari fund muharrir was changed to assistant sadr kanungo, and the service was made pensionable. With effect from 1st April 1906 the pay of all assistant registrar kanungos was raised to Rs. 20. I have submitted separately a note on the pay and prospects of supervisor kanungos: I am confident that increased efficiency would result from improvement in these respects, but the question is complicated by the relations of kanungos with the subordinate executive service, and cannot be discussed with advantage in a purely departmental report.

Revision of circles.

9. Sanction was received to the proposals made in 1904 for introducing the final scales of patwaris' salaries in the districts of Jaunpur, Ballia, Mirzapur and Gorakhpur, and raising the pay of the lowest grade of patwaris and of the assistants in all districts except

those under settlement for which the changes are being included in the reallocation schemes. The revisional schemes for Etah and Pilibhit were sanctioned, and the proposals for Mainpuri and Jalaun were examined and are being discussed with the local authorities. The revised scheme for Aligarh has received the sanction of Government.

Promotion of kanungos.

10. During the year the sadr kanungo of Rae Bareli was selected as a candidate for a tahsildarship. The sadr kanungo of Muzaffarnagar, a diplomate of the Agricultural School, was appointed an inspector of co-operative credit societies. Three supervisor kanungos were confirmed as naib tahsildars, and one received sub. *pro tem.* promotion, while two were selected as listed candidates. Twenty-seven kanungos officiated in temporary vacancies, while three were selected for famine naib tahsildarships. A supervisor of the Pilibhit district was deputed as agricultural inspector in the East African Protectorate, and three were transferred to the subordinate agricultural service of these provinces.

Promotion of patwaris.

11. Seventeen patwaris were promoted to higher posts in the district establishments while several others acted in temporary vacancies. Nine patwaris were exempted from the educational test.

12. The question of introducing the system of personal pay for patwaris in the Agra districts was further examined during the year. The system has been in force in Oudh for some years, and has worked satisfactorily where the safeguards provided in the rules have been observed carefully. The experience gained in Oudh justified the extension of the system to the rest of the provinces and sanction to its introduction from 1st April 1907 has been received.

Education of patwaris.

13. There is a steady improvement in the percentage of patwaris who hold the school certificate. Five years ago it was 89 per cent. and it now stands at 92·5. The number of patwaris exempted fell from 1,376 to 1,154 and this class is rapidly disappearing. The balance amounting to about four per cent. consists almost entirely of posts temporarily vacant and of heirs appointed conditionally under the rules. The number of unpassed men is still large in Azamgarh, and the difficulty of finding qualified men for the tract south of the Jumna has not been overcome in Allahabad.

14. The need for increased efficiency in the patwari schools has been recognized for some years. The appointment of a trained surveyor to inspect the training in survey and map work has been a distinct step in advance. But the schools suffer from frequent changes in the teaching staff, and competent men are difficult to find and to keep on the present low rates of pay. My proposals for a provincial staff of teachers and assistant teachers on improved pay have received the sanction of Government, and will be introduced during the current year.

Residence of patwaris.

15. The subject of residence seems to have received sufficient attention in most districts, and the percentage of patwaris returned as resident rose from 78 to 79 per cent. The percentage would be much higher if the figures for districts which are under settlement or in which reallocation is in progress or has only recently been sanctioned are omitted. The number of patwaris exempted from residence is large in the Rohilkhand division and in many of the eastern districts, but the number tends to decrease slowly. Fresh exemptions were numerous only in the Shahjahanpur district but in this district as many as two hundred absentee patwaris became resident in their circles.

Filing of patwaris statements.

16. Leaving out of account the districts under survey or settlement, the papers were filed generally with creditable punctuality. In thirteen districts all or nearly all the statements were filed in time, and very few papers were received more than a month late. The districts in which defective work was noticed last year again fell below the general standard. Other districts in which unpunctuality was noticeable were Muttra, Etawah, Jalaun and Gorakhpur. The first three districts were affected by famine: in Gorakhpur the delay is attributed to the settlement of jungle grants, and to the large number of statements returned to patwaris for correction, a fact which of itself indicates an advance in this backward district as it shows that some attention is being given to accuracy.

Testing by supervisors.

17. The amount of testing done by supervisor kanungos exceeded the prescribed minimum in all districts except Moradabad, Cawnpore and Banda which were under settlement or survey operations.

The value of the test cannot be measured by the percentages of error, and there is no doubt that the khataunis and jamabandis especially in the eastern districts, are more inaccurate than the figures indicate. Two factors have contributed to this result: the importance of the khatauni has not been sufficiently recognized, and the kanungo's work in connection with this record has generally escaped the scrutiny of superior officers. The facts of which the khatauni is the authoritative record cannot be checked adequately during field to field enquiries, and as regards the rights of cultivators, their term and rents, the khasra does not reach the same standard of accuracy as in the statistics of area, cultivation and crops. My proposals for shortening the khasra, assigning its proper place to the khatauni, and securing a more adequate check of the cultivator's rights by kanungos and superior officers have received the approval of Government. The rules are now being revised and will be introduced from the beginning of the next year.

Testing by superior officers.

18. The amount of testing done by officers on the head-quarters staff increased and in most of the districts mentioned in last year's report the returns show an improvement. The time devoted to inspection of land records was however again deficient in Budaun, Gorakhpur, Rae Bareli and Gonda. In the majority of other districts a substantial amount of testing was done but it was inadequate in Muzaffarnagar, Aligarh, Mainpuri, Etawah, Jalaun, Lucknow and Bara Banki. In Muzaffarnagar and Budaun the deficiency is attributed to heavy case work and both districts are stated to have been short of one officer during a part of the camping season. In Lucknow the staff was busy during the cold weather in connection with the royal and viceregal visits. Famine prevailed in Etawah and Jalaun, and military manoeuvres and partition work interfered with land record inspections in Bara Banki. The deficiency in Rae Bareli is stated to be due to the omission to record the testings done by the Assistant Commissioner. In Gorakhpur the records have been neglected for some years, and the Collector has taken measures to exact an adequate amount of testing from his subordinates. The other reports do not notice the small amount of testing done. Several Collectors complain that increasing case work makes it more and more difficult for the overburdened staff to spend sufficient time on inspection of the kanungos' work; but in many cases the time of the head-quarters staff was as usual badly distributed and too much energy was dissipated on the work of patwaris. The Collectors are however alive to this defect and suitable orders have been issued by them.

19. Although the amount of testing was fairly adequate on the whole, the figures are often misleading. Examined in detail the district returns frequently show that the bulk of the work has been done by one or more officers and that in some tahsils or kanungos' circles the testing is so small as to be valueless for the practical purpose of judging the work of the kanungo. A definite standard has now been laid down for sub-divisional officers with the sanction of Government, and each kanungo's circle will in future come under detailed inspection at least once in two years.

20. Sadr kanungos have as a rule done a fair amount of testing. The reorganization of their offices was not carried out till late in the year, and in some cases the amount of time spent on tour was small. With competent assistants to carry out the office work, the main reason for prolonged detention at head-quarters has been removed and in the present year a higher standard of work can be expected and enforced.

Maintenance of boundary marks.

21. The condition of the boundary marks is reported to be satisfactory on the whole and due attention appears to have been paid to their repair and renewal. The revised rules on this subject have been in force in six districts for a year. The district officers concerned have been asked for an expression of opinion on their working and a report on the experiment will be submitted in due course.

Map correction.

22. Generally speaking the maps are correct and are kept up to date by the patwaris without assistance. Help is given under the rules, in case of necessity; and the difficulties experienced during the year did not as a rule extend beyond a small number of villages in any district. It was decided last year not to resurvey the riverain tracts in Ballia. The Collector has reported that the present staff cannot maintain the maps with sufficient accuracy and has submitted proposals for a partial reallocation. In Basti the maps are receiving special attention. In many villages the changes are so extensive that the patwaris are unable to bring the old maps up to date. Arrangements have been made to employ competent amins to assist them during the present cold weather.

23. In Oudh progress has been satisfactory and in most districts the maps are reported to be fairly up to date. A special enquiry was made by the Deputy Commissioner into the state of the Hardoi maps. Altogether 1,494 maps were found to be hopelessly incorrect. All but 574 of these were revised during the year and arrangements have been made to provide the patwaris with clear traces of the new maps. In Sitapur 576 of the outstanding maps were brought up to date, and only 215 now remain for correction. As stated in last year's report a resurvey of pargana Bhitauli in the Bara Banki district is being carried out by professional agency.

Concealment of rent.

24. Cases of concealment of rent were reported from sixteen districts but disclose no new features. The Collector of Basti has submitted an interesting and most satisfactory report, and the work of improving the accuracy of the records and maps is proceeding steadily in this district; the corrections made in the rent rolls during the last two years aggregate more than $4\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. The Commissioner remarks that "distinctly good work has been done during the year and credit is due to the Collector (Mr. Morgan) and to the land records staff." In Gorakhpur much remains to be done and little has been effected except in the Kasia sub-division. There is no doubt that the administration of the department in this district has been defective; the district is unwieldy, and both staff and supervision have been inadequate. The appointment of a second sadr kanungo should be of the greatest benefit, and the Collector is taking active measures to increase the efficiency of the staff. I propose to ask for the deputation of two Assistant Collectors to this district during next cold weather; the staff will then have had time for reform, and those members who have made no use of the interval can be dealt with strictly.

Preparation and maintenance of tahsil registers.

25. The new registers for Ballia and Agra were completed by my special staff and made over to the Collector. The Jaunpur and Ghazipur registers were then brought up to date and the whole staff is now engaged in preparing the registers for Allahabad. On completion of this work, a start will be made with the circle registers the preparation of which in certain districts has received the sanction of the Board. The new registers for Cawnpore and Mainpuri were prepared in settlement offices and the work is in progress at Dehra Dun and Azamgarh. The forms for *kham* villages in the Naini Tal district have been settled, and forms for Banda, Hamirpur and Moradabad are under issue to the settlement officers.

26. The pargana hand books of Mainpuri and all but two of Cawnpore were published during the year. The hand book for the Dehra tahsil is ready for the press.

Director's inspections.

27. The inspections made by the Deputy Director have been indicated in an earlier chapter. In addition to routine inspection, the Deputy Director examined with the assistance of patwaris and kanungos a proposal to combine the khatauni and jamabandi in a single record. The demand side of the jamabandi is largely a repetition of the khatauni and it has been found that the combination of the two records can be carried out without serious difficulty. The bulk of the records will not be increased and the saving of time and labour of patwaris and kanungos will be material. A suitable form for the new record has been settled and the proposals will shortly be submitted for sanction.

28. During the cold weather the Government was able to depute only one officer on land records duty. The officer selected, Mr. E. M. Nanavati, was posted to Farrukhabad. I proposed to take up four districts this year but only

three officers could be spared. The officers selected were Messrs. C. M. King, C. Moore and G. K. Darling and they have been posted to Budaun, Pilibhit and Ghazipur.

29. The departmental inspectors continue to do useful work. Their main duty is to see that due care is exercised in the routine branches of the work but their reports have in several cases drawn attention to defects of a more serious nature.

Amendment of rules.

30. A number of amendments were necessitated by the abolition with effect from 1st April 1906 of the patwari rate and fund. The Cawnpore Agricultural School was raised to the status of a college and the course for kanungo candidates will in future last three years. The necessary amendments were made in circular 5 The remaining amendments were of minor importance.

31. The patwari fund was abolished at the end of the financial year 1905-6, and the account of its position, prescribed for inclusion in this report, is no longer necessary.

CHAPTER III.

Survey and Revision of Records.

32. The staff employed on this work during the year consisted of one traverse section, two full cadastral parties and part of a third which was engaged for three months only in completing the maps and records of the Moradabad district the survey of which was completed during the previous year.

The outturn accomplished was the revision of maps in four tahsils covering an area of 1,552 square miles in districts Banda and Hamirpur and the final preparation for reproduction by the photographic process of nineteen original maps on the 64″ scale with ten maps on the 16″ scale and 172 traces on the 64″ scale of municipal surveys, and 918 maps of road surveys made during the previous year for the public works department on the 64″ scale. In addition to this, two minor surveys were made at the request of the revenue authorities, particulars of which are given below.

Drawing Section.

33. The Drawing Section at Naini Tal, which was an office under the supervision of the Superintendent of provincial surveys, introduced by the Survey of India for its own requirements, reverted to the control of the Deputy Surveyor General from 1st October 1905 on the abolition of the provincial surveys as a separate organization.

Traverse Section.

34. (Mr. F. S. Bell in charge till 21st April 1906 after which the Deputy Director assumed immediate control of the section.) No fresh traverse surveys were made, but the section was fully employed during the whole year in completing the original maps and preparing traces for reproduction of the municipal and road surveys made during the previous season. The pressure of work during the previous year did not admit of the inking up of more than 188 out of 207 maps of municipal surveys made in that season and the preparation of 35 tracings of the same for reproduction by the Vandyke process. In a similar way none of the 918 maps of the road surveys previously made were inked up during the previous year and had in consequence to be completed in 1906.

35. In addition to the above the following field work was undertaken under the direction of the Board of Revenue; (1) the demarcation from old maps and traverse data of the common boundary between mauzas Akbarabad and Bhobra of the Rampur State and Naini Tal district respectively, and (2) the refixing of two pillars (nos. 107 and 155) on the Kheri-Nepal boundary. These pillars had been washed away by the Mohan river some years ago; but a subsequent change in its course admitted of the former positions being refixed from traverse data. The cost of the former, half of which has been recovered from the Rampur State, is Rs. 168-15-8; whilst that of the latter is Rs. 172-12-11. Both the boundaries ran through dense jungle rendering the work more difficult than usual.

36. The cost incurred by the Traverse Section during the year amounts to Rs. 9,455-7-11 all of which, except Rs. 564-14-0 spent on the training class for junior civilians, Rs. 341-12-7 on the demarcation of the two boundaries referred to in the preceding paragraph, and Rs. 316-9-2 for assistance to land record surveys (Rs. 206-5-8 on account of supplementary surveys made in the Moradabad and

Cawnpore districts, and Rs. 110-3-6 incurred on the preparation of a specimen map of the Mahaban tahsil in district Muttra for the Board of Revenue) is recoverable from the Cawnpore municipality and the Public Works Department, for whom special maps were prepared at their request.

Moradabad Cadastral Section.

37. (Mr. J. H. Murphy in charge.) The survey of this district was intended to be completed in 1904-5 but the traces of 388, and records of 284 villages, remained to be prepared on 1st October 1905 when Mr. L. F. Berkeley, the late officer in charge of the operations, reverted to the Survey of India. The work was completed by the end of December at an additional cost of Rs. 10,720-11-1 to that recorded in last year's report. The total cost incurred on the survey of 1,263 square miles and revision of records of 1,488 square miles of the area of the district, now amounts to Rs 86,906-3-8 thereby raising the cost rates of survey and record writing to Rs. 42 and Rs 22-12-1 per square mile respectively.

Banda Cadastral Section.

38. (Mr. F. B. Powell in charge.) Cadastral operations began in this district in October 1903 and up to October 1905, four, namely Banda, Pailani, Baberu and Kamasin, out of eight tahsils, had been completed. Girwan and Badausa have been revised during the present year thus leaving Mau and Karwi for completion in 1906-7. The areas of the two tahsils in which the maps were revised during the year are 334·29 and 329·71 square miles, containing 199,562 and 224,515 fields respectively. The cost rates for survey and record writing are Rs. 28-5-11 and Rs. 14-3-0 per square mile respectively, or if a share of the head-quarter charges is included the rates will be Rs. 34-8-9 and Rs. 17-4-3 per square mile. The total cost incurred is less than what was spent in previous years; but the reduced area fixed for revision, with the same staff to be maintained, naturally raised the proportionate cost per square mile during the present year. The correction of maps was also found to be very heavy, in fact in many villages it would have been better had resurveys been made, but the inspectors, being guided by the corrections shown on the patwaris copies of the village maps, did not report matters till it was too late to issue fresh skeleton plots.

The interruptions to work caused by the withdrawal of patwaris to attend the Special Judge's court, to estimate the damages done to crops by the frost and drought, and to assist in famine relief operations were very serious as the men were absent for periods varying from 24 to 129 days or an average of 75 days per man during the year. In addition to this the outbreak of cholera, in the station as well as in the district, practically brought the work to a standstill in May and June. Six of the patwaris succumbed to the disease and the staff working at head-quarters were seized with panic and dispersed to their homes. The construction of the Ken canal also retarded the work, as until the alignment and area of ground required were finally marked on the ground, the correction of maps and records was held in abeyance. The maps of 78 villages surveyed in 1903-4 and 1904-5 could not be completed on this account till this year.

An average of 4·3 linear miles of test survey was applied per square mile surveyed, including 1·6 linear miles per square mile run by officers and independently. Twenty-seven per cent. of the khasra entries were also checked by officers and inspectors. The traverse stations of the cadastral survey made in 1874—77 were permanently marked by stones and still exist; thereby providing reliable data for the correction of maps.

The records of 209 villages out of 309 revised during the previous year remained for preparation of fresh copies on 1st October 1905. These were completed by July 1906 and handed over to the Settlement Officer then. This did not interfere with the settlement programme as the two tahsils surveyed in 1903-4 were inspected in 1905-6. The records of 174 out of 317 villages prepared in the current year were made over to the settlement department by 1st October 1906. The remaining records will be completed and handed over by the end of March 1907. This will not delay settlement work in any way, as the tahsils now revised are included in the settlement programme for 1907-8. Of the 167 patwaris trained, 26 failed to qualify. Of these six died of cholera, five were dismissed by the Collector for continuous absence, four were allowed to resign, whilst eleven will be given a further opportunity of qualifying in the current year. In addition to these, 46

candidates for patwariships sent by the Collector, and 17 patwari school teachers and kanungos from different districts, underwent training and qualified for certificates.

Mr. J. B. Smart, deputy collector, who underwent training in all branches of the work during the previous season, replaced Babu Nilmoni Chatterji as assistant to the survey officer on the reversion of the latter to the Survey of India on 1st October 1905. He has worked well and promises to be a good survey officer.

Hamirpur Cadastral Section.

39. (Mr. P. C. Smart in charge.) The revision of the old cadastral maps of this district began in October 1903 and was completed during the present year. In the previous seasons tahsils Hamirpur, Maudaha and Rath covering an area of 1,395 square miles were completed, leaving tahsils Kulpahar and Mahoba with an area of 888 square miles for correction during this year.

The total cost for the year amounts to Rs. 35,065-11-9 which works out to Rs. 39-8-0 per square mile, or Rs. 24-8-0 per square mile for surveying and Rs. 15 for records. If a share of the head-quarter charges are added to this, the rates will be Rs. 30-3-10 and Rs. 18-8-0 per square mile respectively for surveying and records. These rates are favourable compared with previous years and with those of Banda; but the fields being larger in this district (there being only 308,480 in this large area), the costs are necessarily less. The head-quarter charges being distributed over two instead of five sections, as in former years, raises the proportionate amount applied to the two districts now surveyed.

Owing to the repeated withdrawal of patwaris from survey duty on account of the famine which prevailed in the district, and their constant attendance in the Special Judge's court, the records have not been completed as soon as was anticipated, those of six villages of tahsils Rath and Maudaha surveyed during the previous year still remaining incomplete on this account. Substitutes employed at the cost of the survey could not do much without the old records, which the circle patwaris also required for constant reference. Irrespective of this many of the villages being *khetbat* or intermixed with each other in one block, greatly retarded the progress of the work. There were as many as seven patwaris in one combined block of this sort who could not all refer to the solitary map and khasra of this village at the same time. The maps were checked by an average of 4·5 linear miles of test survey per square mile of area surveyed, of which 1·5 linear miles per square miles were run by officers or independently. Thirty-four per cent of the revised khasra entries were also checked on the ground. The traverse stations having been marked by clay cylinders instead of stone at the time of the last survey made in 1874—79 could not be found. The trijunctions of villages, which were permanently marked, and trijunctions of old fields that could be identified were accordingly utilized as the basis for correcting the maps. This rendered the work more difficult in Hamirpur than in Banda. The village boundaries, being well marked at time of last settlement by slabs of stone, which is plentiful in Bundelkhand, were found to agree generally with the old survey maps. Owing to changes in the course of nadis or rivers the boundaries of villages had in a few cases to be altered. The entry of soils in the khasra, or on the traces provided the Settlement Officer for his inspection, was discontinued owing to some modifications made in the classifications adopted at last settlement.

The field work of this district is now completed, but the records of only 275 out of 385 villages were ready by 1st October 1906. It is hoped that 92 of the remaining 110 will be finished by end of December; whilst the remaining eighteen the Settlement Officer has offered to have completed in his own office in order to admit of the disbandment of the party by 1st January 1907.

Nineteen patwaris out of 196 employed failed to qualify in surveying; twelve provided heirs, whilst for seven circles trained substitutes had to be engaged to do the work. None of the kanungos of the district or from other districts, were sent to undergo a course of training in surveying. Requisitions were made to the Collector for the services of the kanungos of the two tahsils under survey to supervise the preparation of the records; but they could not be spared from district work.

Mr. Littlewood, the assistant survey officer, having reverted to the Survey of India on 1st October 1905, Thakur Lekhraj Singh, deputy collector, was

appointed to succeed him. In office he was in charge of the records section the details of which he has thoroughly mastered. He took an interest in his work and with a little more training in field details will no doubt be able to work independently. On the disbandment of the party he will be transferred to Banda.

40. The programme for the coming year is the completion of the revision of maps and records of the two remaining tahsils of Banda and the survey of pargana Bhitauli in the Bara Banki district. Further surveys are not contemplated at present.

The following tabular statement of cadastral operations is given in accordance with the correspondence ending with G. O. No. 1701/I—407-1904 dated 23rd June 1904 :—

District.	Date of commencement of cadastral operations.	Work done during the year.	Expenditure during the year.	Cost rates per square mile of the year.		Remaining for future years.
				Survey.	Record writing.	
Moradabad	1st October 1903.	1903—5 { Surveys 349·2 sq. miles; Revision 913·6 „; Records 1,488·2 „ }	86,906 3 8	42 0 0	22 12 1	District completed by end of December 1905.
Banda ...	1st October 1903.	{ 1903—5, 1,509 square miles ... ; 1905-6, 664 ditto ... Revision and records.	58,259 0 0 28,257 13 3	25 11 10 28 5 11	12 13 11 14 3 0	1906-7, 884 square miles.
Hamirpur	1st October 1903.	{ 1903—5, 1,395 square miles ... ; 1905-6, 888 ditto ... Revision and records.	66,508 0 0 35,065 11 9	32 0 0 24 8 0	15 10 10 15 0 0	Survey of district completed. Records will be completed by end of December 1906. The additional cost for completing the same will be approximately Rs. 3,000.

41. The Settlement Officers have accepted the maps as good : a few points of detail which they have raised are receiving attention. They have also accepted the records prepared as on the whole good : mistakes have been detected in particular cases but not general inaccuracy.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. MORELAND,

Director.

ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT.

No. 1348 OF 1907.

FROM

THE HON'BLE MR. J. M. HOLMS, C.S.I.,

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

UNITED PROVINCES,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

DATED NAINI TAL, THE 27TH MAY 1907.

SIR,

REVENUE DEPT. I AM directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the report on the administration of the department of Land Records for the year ending 30th September 1906, together with copy of letter no. $\frac{124}{\text{VII}-47-3}$, dated the 10th April 1907, being the Board's review thereon.

2. In the concluding section of paragraph 7 of the report the Director draws attention to the misuse of their right of nomination to the post of patwari vested in landlords by section 24, United Provinces Land Revenue Act (III of 1901). The necessity for amending that section to provide against this practice has been noted for consideration when the amendment of the Act is undertaken, but in the meanwhile the Board have been asked to direct Collectors to give a liberal interpretation to sub-section 6, section 24 of the Revenue Act, and to refuse to appoint as patwaris men who have secured their nomination by payment or promise of payment of money.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

J. M. HOLMS,

Chief Secretary.

REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 1907.

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No. $\frac{59}{\text{VII—47(4)}}$ OF 1908.

FROM

P. HARRISON, ESQ.,

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

UNITED PROVINCES,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

UNITED PROVINCES.

Dated Allahabad, the 25th February 1908.

SIR,

Present:

L. A. S. PORTER, ESQ., C.S.I.

I AM directed to submit the report by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, United Provinces, on the operations of the Land Records department for the year ending 30th September 1907.

2. The Board observe that the report is clear and succinct: that it is a record of progress in all directions, and that the defects noticed in recent years are gradually being removed. The rent-rolls of Basti and Gorakhpur, where widespread concealment of rent has been reported in the past, are being purified, and in Basti special action has been taken to remedy the defects in the records. The improvement in the quality of testing by the district staff is noticeable in most districts except Lucknow, Etawah, and Aligarh, where it is reported to be insufficient.

3. The Board commend to the notice of Government the efficient administration of the department by Mr. Moreland.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

P. HARRISON,

Secretary.

[Prescribed maximum limit of the report, 10 pages.]

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1907.

No. 988 / I—100A.

From

W. H. MORELAND, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,

Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture,

United Provinces,

To

The SECRETARY to the BOARD of REVENUE,

United Provinces.

Dated Lucknow, the 23rd January 1908.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the report on the administration of the land records for the year ending 30th September 1907. I am indebted to the two Deputy Directors for the draft of the report.

CHAPTER I.

Prefatory.

Officers on the staff.

2. I held charge of the department throughout the year. The post of Deputy Director, Land Records, was filled by Mr. C. F. Balfour, I.C.S., until his death on the 7th August. For the remainder of the year the post remained vacant; but Mr. A. C. Chatarji, I.C.S., attached to this department on special duty, held charge of the current duties in addition to his other work. Mr. T. F. Freeman held the post of Deputy Director, Surveys, till the 11th April 1907, on which date he proceeded on six months' leave. I carried on his duties during his absence.

Tours of officers.

3. My own tours need not be detailed here; they now concern land records work only incidentally. In November I conducted personally at Cawnpore the training of Junior Civilians in survey, land records and the principles of revenue administration.

4. In October Mr. Balfour conducted the examination of the kanungo class at the Agricultural College, Cawnpore. During the months of November, December, January and February he was on tour in Etawah, Mainpuri, Etah, Aligarh, Bulandshahr, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur. In March he visited Ghazipur and in April examined the stock of surplus maps at Allahabad in connection with a report on the matter called for by Government. In the rains he visited Mainpuri, Muttra and Budaun.

5. The Deputy Director, Surveys, was engaged during the months of October, November and December in inspections of the offices of the Hamirpur and Banda survey parties. During December and January he was making preliminary arrangements for the commencement of traverse work in the Bhitauli pargana. After this he again proceeded to Banda in order to supervise the checking of survey work in tahsil Karwi. During March and April he was engaged in checking the office and field-work of the Bhitauli section up to the date on which he availed himself of leave.

Special features.

6. The main features of change in the year under report have been the introduction in Agra of the system of personal pay for patwaris, the extensive amendments in the Khasra rules, and the provisional issue of the revised Circular 11—VII, summarizing the methods found by experience most practicable in the inspection of land records

work. The amendment of the khasra represents a considerable advance in simplification and lucidity and the elimination of unnecessary writing aimed at by these reforms will, I hope, be further secured by the proposals for combining the khatauni and jamabandi and abolishing the closing khewat, now before the Board of Revenue. The resultant relief to the patwari from his present burden of manual labour should in itself produce a higher standard of accuracy, and the improved quality of supervision to be looked for from the impending improvement in the position and prospects of the superior land records staff will co-operate towards this result.

The only large question that is now before me is the improvement of the notes recorded in the tahsili registers so as to make them a valuable permanent record of the progress of each sub-division. I hope to dispose of this question in time to issue the revised land records manual during the year. I cannot close this section without placing on record my sense of the loss suffered by the department by Mr. Balfour's untimely death. He had been unwearying in his efforts to assist me in working out the important changes in system to which I have just referred, and much of any success that has been attained is due to him.

CHAPTER II.

Land Records.

Establishment.

7. During the year under review the orders of Government have been received on the note dealing with the position and prospects of the supervisor kanungos submitted by me last year. Among the changes sanctioned the following require mention in this place :—

(a) Candidates passing out of the Agricultural College have hitherto had to remain unemployed during an indefinite interval pending the occurrence of a vacancy. They will now, on passing out, be immediately appointed supernumerary supervisors on Rs. 20 per mensem and will be available to relieve the stress of work in any district requiring their services, pending their appointment as permanent supervisors.

(b) The proportion of kanungos among the candidates to be selected by the Board for naib tahsildarships has been raised to 33 per cent.

(c) One direct appointment to a naib tahsildarship has been reserved for diplomates of the Agricultural College.

(d) Government has sanctioned for supervisors who are diplomates of the Agricultural College three grades of Rs. 30, Rs. 40 and Rs. 50 with English allowance of Rs. 5 and further proposals, regarding the grading of those supervisors who are not diplomates, are now before Government.

(e) The rise in the pay of supervisors will necessitate a more liberal scale of pay for sadr kanungos, proposals for which have been submitted since the close of the year.

(f) Provision is also being made for finding suitable sedentary employment for supervisor kanungos who, through no fault of their own, become unfit for outdoor work before qualifying for pension.

Effect was given during the year under report to the new grading of patwari school teachers : the grading of assistant teachers is still under consideration.

Revision of circles.

8. The schemes for revision of patwaris' pay and circles in Mainpuri and Jalaun were sanctioned during the year and took effect in Jalaun with the beginning of the year, in Mainpuri from the 1st November 1907. The proposals for reallocation in Cawnpore, submitted by the Settlement Officer, are under discussion with the local authorities. The scheme for Dehra Dun has, after examination in consultation with the Superintendent, been submitted to the Board of Revenue. Proposals for revision in Hamirpur have been under discussion with the Settlement and Assistant Settlement officers. Proposals for reallocation in Banda are being received in instalments and will be dealt with when complete.

Promotion of kanungos.

9. During the year the sadr kanungo of Rae Bareli was appointed tahsildar and the sadr kanungo of Moradabad received a temporary appointment in the same capacity. The 2nd sadr kanungo of Basti officiated as naib tahsildar. A supervisor in Rae Bareli was appointed sadr kanungo and another was selected as Manager of the Rae Bareli Co-operative District Bank. Three supervisors were confirmed as naib tahsildars and six were selected as listed candidates, five of these being diplomates. Eighteen supervisors officiated as naib tahsildars in temporary vacancies and five were confirmed in the Subordinate Agricultural Service.

Promotion of patwaris.

10. Ten patwaris received promotion within the district establishments. Seven patwaris were exempted by me from the educational test.

11. The system of personal pay for patwaris sanctioned last year has been in force since the 1st of April and is working well.

Education of patwaris.

12. The improvement in the proportion of patwaris holding the school certificate is maintained and the percentage has reached 93. Exemptions fell to 1,017 or 3·5 per cent., and the small balance of 1,074 posts is made up half of vacancies and half of patwaris appointed conditionally or actually studying in the patwari school.

13. The reports of the Survey Inspector indicate an improved standard in the teaching of patwari schools; with the provision of a reorganized and properly graded staff of teachers and assistants on improved pay, a further advance in efficiency may be anticipated.

Residence of patwaris.

14. The improvement of last year is maintained and 80 per cent. of patwaris are now returned as resident. The balance is largely drawn from districts under settlement or reallocation. The general tendency, with the exception of Etah, has been to reduce exemptions. Of the districts where special factors are not at work, Gorakhpur shows the largest proportion of non-resident patwaris; that proportion however has been largely reduced during the current year and satisfactory energy is being shown in its further reduction. The advances for house building sanctioned in 1904 have been recovered almost in full. On the urgent representation of the local authorities I have this year recommended a grant of Rs. 2,000 to be devoted to this purpose in a portion of the Mirzapur district.

Filing of patwaris' statements.

15. A praiseworthy improvement in the punctuality of filing records is this year observable. In Bijnor and Ghazipur all papers were filed on or before the prescribed dates. In Jaunpur, Lucknow, Fyzabad, Bahraich and Bara Banki nearly all were so filed. Noticeable delay occurred only in Shahjahanpur, Gorakhpur and Sitapur. In Shahjahanpur the delay is attributed to the exigencies of quinquennial settlement in one tahsil, in Gorakhpur to the stress of taqavi distribution and the reassessment of alluvial mahals and jungle tracts. Excluding from consideration Banda and Moradabad, where settlement operations are in progress, and Azamgarh, where the patwaris returned late in the season from settlement work, it is satisfactory to note that practically all patwari papers in the provinces were filed at latest within one month of the date prescribed.

Testing by supervisors.

16. The prescribed minimum amount of testing was exceeded in all districts except Banda and Hamirpur, in both of which settlement operations are in progress. A distinct improvement is shown on last year's figures. Khatauni testing was deficient in Pilibhit. The khataunis and jamabandis are probably still considerably more inaccurate than the percentages would indicate and the importance of the khatauni is still far from obtaining its due recognition though considerable advance has been made in this direction. Figures are not yet available from which the efficiency of khatauni verification can be estimated.

Testing by superior officers.

17. The instructions noted in last year's report as laying down a definite standard of inspection have been followed more or less thoroughly in all districts, although in the majority of district reports no mention is made of the submission of the required clear expression of opinion on each supervisor's work.

Judging from statistics the testing work of the headquarters staff shows considerable improvement and it is gratifying to note a substantial increase in the proportion of attention directed to the test of supervisor's work, as distinguished from that of the patwari. In Meerut, Bulandshahr, Basti, Rae Bareli and Fyzabad, however, disproportionate attention is still paid to untested records. In Bijnor, Shahjahanpur, Allahabad, Jhansi, Rae Bareli, Gonda, Meerut, Ballia, Hardoi, Pilibhit and Jaunpur the amount of testing was noticeably good. In Lucknow and Etawah testing was very inadequate. In Aligarh also it was insufficient in amount.

18. In khasra and jamabandi testing the percentage of error has risen indicating a more thorough test rather than a deterioration in the records concerned. In Gorakhpur complaint is made of the pressure of work on the district staff and the consequent impossibility of devoting sufficient attention to the supervision of land records. In Basti steady improvement is evident. The Collector of Saharanpur makes special mention of the good land records work done by his sadr tahsildar, Babu Mohini Mohan Lal.

19. The work of sadr kanungos shows an improvement as regards the khasra, but a regrettable falling off as regards the jamabandi and khewat. They have on the whole done a fair amount of testing, but progress commensurate with the relief given from office work has not yet been secured. In Lucknow notably and in Pilibhit, Benares, Gorakhpur and Kheri the amount of touring by sadr kanungos is insufficient.

Maintenance of boundary marks.

20. The marks are generally reported to be in good condition and due attention has been paid to their repair or renewal. The six districts in which the revised rules were experimentally introduced in the year under report pronounced favourably on their working and sanction has since been obtained to their general introduction.

Map correction.

21. In Agra the state of the maps is generally satisfactory. The patwaris receive help under the rules in the rare cases in which they are unable themselves to maintain correctness. The proposals of the Collector of Ballia for a reallocation in the riverain tract of his district with a view to the improvement of maps have been submitted to Government. In Basti, notwithstanding the satisfactory results of the arrangement made last cold weather, the Collector has expressed his opinion that a comprehensive reallocation will be necessary to secure any great and permanent improvement in the maps.

22. Further progress has been made in Oudh. In Hardoi almost all the maps mentioned last year have been corrected. In Sitapur, of the 215 maps remaining all but 29 have been corrected, and arrangements have been made to complete the work within the first quarter of the current year. The resurvey of pargana Bhitauli in the Bara Banki district is dealt with in chapter III.

Concealment of rents.

23. Cases of concealment of rent are reported from fourteen districts. In Gorakhpur the Collector's energetic action has resulted in the zamindars of 311 villages getting rents attested and an addition to the rent roll of Rs. 28,585, but the Collector reports that to get the jamabandis into a satisfactory state will involve many years of hard work. The Commissioner endorses the Collector's statement as regards the defective state of the records and attributes its existence to the unwieldy proportions of the district and its tahsils and the resultant overpowering pressure of work on its officers. This complaint is not, I understand, limited to the land records department, but is common to most branches of the administration. In Basti the work of correcting rent rolls continues, though, naturally, more slowly than at its inception. Half a lakh has been added to the roll, and the total addition in three years is now $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. Considerable attention has also been paid to the legalization and attestation of rents proved to be paid. Agreements and leases for sums aggregating $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs have been attested by the kanungos. As regards the report called for by the Board with regard to the state of the khewats in these two districts, the Collector of Basti reports that mutation work is heavy but up to date and that khewats are now believed to be fairly accurate. Special action has been taken to remedy defects, such as systematic comparison with the settlement khewat and subsequent entries in the mutation register. Nearly 5,000 mistakes have

been thus corrected during the year under report. Much however remains to be done. No special information on the point has been received from Gorakhpur, and a separate report has been asked for.

Preparation and maintenance of tahsil registers.

24. The new registers for Allahabad were completed by my special staff and made over to the Collector. A portion of this staff has now gone to Naini Tal and is engaged in compiling the new registers for that district; the remainder is employed in compiling the new circle registers mentioned in last year's report; those for Budaun have been compiled and the Bareilly registers are now being opened. New pargana and mauza registers are being prepared by the settlement officers for Banda, Hamirpur and Moradabad.

25. Pargana handbooks for the remaining tahsils of Cawnpore and for tahsil Dehra of the Dehra Dun district have been published during the year. Handbooks for Jalaun are in preparation.

Director's inspections.

26. There is nothing to record regarding the inspections made by the late Deputy Director beyond the enumeration of them given in a previous paragraph.

27. During the cold weather three officers were deputed by Government on land records duty. The officers selected were Mr. C. M. King, posted to Budaun, Mr. C. Moore, posted to Pilibhit, and Mr. G. K. Darling, posted to Ghazipur. I am glad to be able to record that sound and valuable work was done by all three officers; the records in these districts will however require sustained attention from the Collectors if improvement is to be maintained. For the present year I proposed to take up the districts of Muttra and Gorakhpur allotting two of the officers deputed to Gorakhpur. Impending scarcity has however precluded their deputation.

28. The departmental inspectors continue to do useful work; dealing mainly with details of the machinery of the records, it does not call for minute notice here.

Amendment of rules.

29. The amendments necessitated by the changes indicated above in paragraph 6 have been made in the circulars, the most important being those following the reform of the khasra. The remaining amendments are of minor importance.

Amendment slips to the circulars of Department VII have accumulated to an extent rendering the convenient use of the book almost impossible. In view of this and the fact that many of the circulars have been wholly or partially recast I contemplate the issue of a new edition of the circulars before the close of the year.

CHAPTER III.

Survey and Revision of Records.

30. The staff employed on this work during the year consisted of one cadastral party engaged in Banda, a second engaged for three months only in completing the records of the previous season in Hamirpur, and a third combined traverse and cadastral section engaged for nine months on the survey of pargana Bhitauli in the Bara Banki district.

The outturn accomplished was the traverse and cadastral survey of 67·23 square miles in pargana Bhitauli and the revision of maps and records of 883·93 square miles in district Banda. In addition to this a special survey of 970·62 acres, or one and half square miles in area, and on the scale of 32 inches to the mile, was made at the request of the Collector of Banda of the tract of ravines extending between the jail and Ken river, in order to illustrate the extension of ravines since the last survey was made in 1875. The original map prepared on the scale of 64 inches to the mile of the Banda Municipality was also completed, and four sets of traces were prepared therefrom for the municipal authorities.

31. *Traverse section.*—(Nominally under Mr. J. B. Smart, Deputy Collector who was being trained, but under the immediate control of the Deputy Director until 10th April 1907 when he went on leave.) Fresh traverse surveys were made in pargana Bhitauli to provide skeleton plots for the cadastral surveys which followed. As the main object of the survey in this pargana was to dispose of a number of long-standing disputes existing on both the east and west sides of the pargana, which is bounded on those sides respectively, by the Chauka and Gogra

rivers ; and as the decisions were expected to follow the old revenue survey maps of 1863-64 and 1865-66, it was essential to connect the new traverse surveys with those of the Bahraich district, and thereby provide a common origin and reliable basis for comparing the boundaries of the two districts. The traverse stations in Bahraich being permanently marked by stones, connections were easily effected across the Gogra river.

The work accomplished was the survey of one main circuit, three sub-circuits and forty village circuits, with thirty-eight subtraverses. No stations of the Great Trigonometrical Survey exist in or near the pargana, so no connections were made; but to check the angular work azimuth observations were taken at 11 points, disclosing a mean angular error of a minute in every 10 angles or 6″ per angle, which is very satisfactory considering the surveyors were only recently trained, the old staff having reverted to the Survey of India on the recall of Mr. Bell to that Department. The corrections applied to the chain measurements averaged 3·42 links per 100 chains or 1·8 feet per mile. The traverse stations along the boundaries of villages were permanently marked by stones, where there was no fear of the marks being removed by floods, and in other places by wooden posts 5 feet long and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness. Along the sub-traverses run inside villages for the purpose of facilitating the cadastral survey the stations were, as usual, marked by clay cylinders. The preliminary demarcation of village boundaries was under the control of the district authorities, and was all that could be desired. In 14 villages, where disputes existed, the parties concerned pointed out different boundaries according to their respective claims. These had to be disposed of by Mr. Smart in his capacity of Assistant Record officer under the Land Revenue Act. The cost of the traverse work amounts to Rs. 1,378 or Rs. 20-8-0 per square mile ; or if a share of the headquarter charges is included to Rs. 25-4-8 per square mile, which compares favourably with rates in previous seasons.

32. *Bhitauli cadastral section.*—(Mr. J. B. Smart, Deputy Collector in charge.)—Field work began by the preliminary training of patwaris in surveying during the latter half of December and the whole of January; after which most of them qualified to start cadastral work, as traverse plots became available. The staff employed on the work consisted of 18 patwaris, 8 supervisor kanungos from other districts who were sent for training to this section, and 33 kanungo candidates of the Cawnpore Agricultural school sent for two months' practical training. Three of the patwaris and one supervisor kanungo failed to qualify in surveying; whilst all others qualified and did good work. The limited time left for the completion of the work before the setting in of the rains, and the difficulties involved in surveying the different channels of the Gogra river and Chauka nadi necessitated the employment of a few amins for a month.

The area surveyed is 67·23 square miles and consists of 40 villages containing 38,088 fields mapped on 103 sheets. Triplicate traces of each village map were prepared for district use. The field work was checked by 24·2 linear miles of partals run by the Survey Officer, 66·4 miles independent partals, and 162·9 miles run by the Inspectors.

The cost incurred on these surveys and preparation of a new set of khasras together with the calculation of field areas amounted to Rs. 2,325 or a combined rate of Rs. 34-9-3 per square mile. If a share of the headquarter charges is included the rate is raised to Rs. 44-2-7 per square mile.

Every assistance was rendered by the representatives of the Kapurthala and Ramnagar estates, without which the work could not have been completed as early as it was. It is hoped now that correct maps have been prepared of this pargana that every effort will be made to maintain them systematically. Mr. J. B. Smart conducted the Survey with energy and success.

33. *Banda cadastral section.*—(Mr. F. B. Powell in charge.)—Cadastral operations were resumed in this district in October 1906. The revision of maps and preparation of new records for tahsils Karwi and Mau, covering an area of 883·93 square miles, and thereby completing the survey of the district, was the programme for the year. This area includes seven blocks of culturable land which at the

time of last settlement were included in forest reserves; but have since been transferred to local zamindars in exchange for land acquired from them by the Forest department. The blocks thus surveyed had to be traversed first and then connected with the previous traverse survey to admit of their correct relative positions being determined and plotted on to the new maps. The area contained in these seven blocks aggregates 2,921 acres or 4·56 square miles. This work was carried out on the same lines as in previous seasons through patwari agency on the one year system; but the repeated interruptions caused by the frequent withdrawal of patwaris for district duty will not admit of the records being completed as early as was anticipated.

The staff employed in the field consisted of 2 Head Inspectors, 16 Inspectors, 134 patwaris, 6 assistant patwaris and 6 amins appointed to render assistance in the exceptionally large circles. After undergoing training in surveying for six weeks the patwaris who had sufficiently qualified proceeded to their circles to start work by 15th November 1906.

The areas of the two tahsils surveyed during the year are 567·33 and 316·60 square miles, and contain 187,309 and 180,822 fields respectively. The total cost incurred during the year amounts to Rs. 30,516-5-3, which works out to a combined rate of Rs. 34-8-4 per square mile, or Rs. 23-0-4 per square mile for surveying and Rs. 11-8-0 for records. If a share of the headquarter charges is added to this the rates will be Rs. 29-3-4 per square mile for surveying and Rs. 14-9-0 for records. The survey of the district is now finished, but when the records will be completed is uncertain as the recall of the patwaris to their circles in the beginning of October in connection with the failure of the rains in this district renders it impossible to form an estimate as to when they will return; and the employment of muharrirs as temporary substitutes has proved a failure so far owing to the numerous mistakes caused by misreading figures and the writing of the Bundelkhand patwaris.

The total area surveyed in the district aggregates 3,057 square miles and consists of eight tahsils containing 1,264 villages with 1,739,656 fields. The total cost incurred up to the end of September 1907 now amounts to Rs. 1,17,068-14-7, which works out to an average rate of Rs. 38-4-8 per square mile for the district and is very satisfactory, considering the cost incurred on previous cadastral surveys.

The interruptions to work caused by the unavoidable withdrawal of patwaris to attend to various district duties in connection with the failure of crops were again serious, as the men were absent for periods varying from 26 to 130 days or an average of 78 days per man during the year. The interruptions to field work attributable to want of assistance from zamindars were, however, of little consequence owing to the general attention paid by villagers to the orders issued by the Collector, and the prompt notice taken by the sub-divisional officer of all reports made to him of any disregard of such orders.

An average test of 3·59 linear miles, including 1·18 linear miles run by officers and independently was applied to each square mile surveyed, thereby guaranteeing the accuracy of the maps which the Settlement Officer considers leave little to be desired. The entries in the new khasras were made on the basis of the previous year's papers except where they were found to be obviously incorrect. In *khetbat* villages great difficulty was experienced in reconciling the entries in the old records with facts on the ground, as at the time of last settlement rights in combined plots of waste belonging to two or more villages were merely recorded as portions of certain numbers belonging to A village and portions or shares belonging to B. Rights to trees in such plots were not recorded, and any rights subsequently acquired were difficult to distinguish without special demarcation. In lands acquired by the railway at time of construction and which they subsequently found it unnecessary to retain, the same rights that existed in fields at time of acquisition have continued to be recorded in the annual papers, though the plots in many cases now consist of waste land out of the possession of the former cultivators. Thirty-seven per cent. of the khasra entries were checked by officers and inspectors.

The traverse stations of the former cadastral survey made in the season 1876-77, being permanently marked by stones, are still to be found except along the banks of rivers where they have disappeared owing to encroachments and have provided reliable data for the present revision of maps. Two stations of the Trigonometrical Survey of India, named Lalpur and Kattia Dandi, were included in the season's programme.

Both the stations are on hills and were found to be in good order.

The records of 143 villages out of 317 revised during the previous year remained for preparation of fresh copies on 1st October 1906. These were only completed by the middle of August 1907, as great delay was caused by the constant corrections that had to be made in both maps and records in connection with the construction of the Ken canal. Owing to this, records once completed had to be revised, thus rendering it necessary to make numerous corrections in the khasras of the villages affected thereby. The records of 261 out of 389 villages prepared in the current year were made over to the Settlement Department by 1st October 1907. The remaining records will be completed and handed over to the Settlement Department by end of February 1908, if no further interruptions are made by the withdrawal of patwaris. Of the 140 patwaris and assistants trained 27 failed to qualify. Of these eight were dismissed by the Collector whilst the remaining nineteen provided substitutes who assisted the patwaris chiefly in surveying. In addition to these, 20 kanungos with 26 partition amins and 27 apprentices were deputed from different districts to undergo a course of training in surveying for which they obtained certificates. Four probationers from Indore were also sent for a course of instruction in surveying and office work into which they gained an insight after a period of four months.

The survey of the district is now completed and the party is about to be disbanded. Competent and experienced men are thus thrown out of employ, and it is hoped that officers who require such men will give the staff a preference.

34. *Hamirpur cadastral section.*—(Mr. P. C. Smart in charge till 1st November 1906, when he reverted to the Survey of India, after which Thakur Lekhraj Singh, Deputy Collector, held charge.)—The survey of this district was completed in 1905-06, but the records of 120 out of 385 villages still remained to be completed on 1st October 1906. Of them the records of 99 villages were completed by the end of December 1906 ; whilst those of the remaining 21 villages, which were approaching completion, were transferred to the settlement office for final completion, and the party disbanded by 1st January 1907. The extra cost incurred on the Hamirpur records, from 1st October to end of December 1906, was Rs. 5,536-2-2. The total cost for the district, which covers an area of 2,283 square miles, now amounts to Rs. 1,07,109-13-11, thereby raising the combined rate for survey and records from Rs. 44-7-10 to Rs. 46-14-8 per square mile.

On the disbandment of the party Thakur Lekhraj Singh, Deputy Collector, was transferred to the Banda party, which he joined early in January 1907.

35. *The programme* for the coming year includes the completion of the Banda records and the disposal of some intricate boundary disputes between districts (1) Kheri and Bahraich, (2) Bahraich and Sitapur, and (3) Naini Tal and Rampur State : the two former on the basis of the old revenue surveys of 1866-67, and the last on that of the cadastral surveys made in 1888-90. The disputes will require the immediate supervision of the Deputy Director, Surveys, and the redemarcation of the old boundaries will probably not be completed before the end of May 1908 as no old marks exist on the ground; and until traverse surveys are made connecting the previous surveys of the two adjoining districts, no reliable data can be obtained for marking the old boundaries on the ground. On the completion of this no more survey work remains to be done, though constant references are being made by district officers in connection with boundaries of villages affected by recent decisions, and 'badars' are still being sent from Moradabad, Hamirpur and Banda for the correction of original maps and area statements; these will necessitate the retention in the land records office for probably twelve months of one draftsman and computor to give effect to the orders received from the different settlement officers.

The following tabular statement of cadastral operations is given in accordance with the correspondence ending with G. O. No. 17011/I—407-1904, dated 23rd June 1904 :—

District.	Date of commencement of cadastral operations.	Work done during the year.	Expenditure during the year.	Cost rates per square mile of the year.		Remaining for future years.
				Survey.	Record writing.	
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
Banda ...	1st October 1903.	1903-06, 2,173 square miles ...	86,516 13 3	26 9 0	13 4 0	Survey of district completed. Owing to the withdrawal of patwaris for district work in the beginning of October 1907 in connection with taqavi advances and famine relief operations no definite date can be fixed for the completion of the records; but they will be finished by the end of February unless further interference occurs.
		1906-07, 884 square miles ... Revision and records.	30,516 5 3	23 0 4	11 8 0	
Hamirpur	1st October 1903.	1903-06, 2,283 square miles ... Revision and records.	1,01,573 11 9	29 2 5	17 12 3	
		1906-07, Records only ...	5,536 2 2			
Bara Banki, pargana Bhitauli.	18th December 1906.	1906-07, Traverse 67·23 sq. miles	1,378 0 0	20 8 0	...	
		1906-07, Surveys sq. miles / Records sq. miles	2,325 0 0	23 9 3	11 0 0	

36. The Settlement Officer of Banda finds that the maps leave little to be desired. The records (which are not attested) fall below the necessary standard of accuracy : he attributes this to insufficient time having been allowed, and to the constant interruptions caused by scarcity, the acquisition of land for the Ken canal, and the requirements of the Special Judge. It is quite true that these special demands on the patwaris' time have thrown the whole organization out of gear ; work has been carried on at the utmost pressure to get materials ready for the Settlement officer, and the absence of the check of attestation has contributed to the passing of inaccurate entries.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. MORELAND,

Director.

ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT.

No. $\frac{755}{\text{I—213}}$ of 1908.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. J. M. HOLMS, C.S.I.,

Chief Secretary to Government,

United Provinces,

To

The SECRETARY to the BOARD of REVENUE,

United Provinces.

Dated Allahabad, the 17th March 1908.

Sir,

Revenue Dept. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt, under cover of your letter no. 59/VII—47 (4) dated the 25th February 1908, of the annual report on the administration of the Department of Land Records for the year ending 30th September 1907.

2. I am to point out that the correctness of the figures has not been certified, nor have the fractions of a rupee been omitted from the total cost mentioned in paragraphs 33 and 34, and in the fourth column of the statement on page 9, of the report, in accordance with rules 11 (xii) and (xiv) respectively of the rules for the preparation of reports printed on pages 137 to 139, department III, Manual of Government Orders, and to request that these rules may be complied with in future.

3. With reference to paragraph 17 of the report, I am to say that the reasons for the neglect of testing work in Lucknow, Etawah, and Aligarh should have been enquired into and the result noted, and to request that this may now be done.

4. The Lieutenant Governor agrees with the Board as to the efficient character of the administration of the department by Mr. Moreland.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. M. HOLMS,

Chief Secretary.

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 1908.

ALLAHABAD:

PRINTED BY F. LUKER, SUPDT., GOVERNMENT PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES.

1909.

[Prescribed maximum limit of the report, 10 pages.]

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REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1908.

No. 860
1—160A.

FROM

W. H. MORELAND, ESQ., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE,
UNITED PROVINCES,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
UNITED PROVINCES.

Dated Lucknow, the 25th January 1909.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the report on the administration of the land records for the year ending 30th September 1908. I am indebted for the draft of the report to the Deputy Director of Land Records and to Mr. T. F. Freeman, lately Deputy Director for Surveys.

CHAPTER I.

PREFATORY.

Officers on the staff.

2. I held charge of the department throughout the year with the exception of a short period of leave during which Mr. E. A. Molony, I.C.S., held charge. Mr. A. C. Chatarji, I.C.S., was relieved of the charge of the office of Deputy Director of Land Records by Mr. R. W. D. Willoughby, I.C.S., at the beginning of November 1907. Mr. Willoughby held charge until the close of the year, and I take this opportunity of acknowledging the most valuable assistance which he rendered to me. Mr. T. F. Freeman returned from leave in October 1907 and held charge of the office of Deputy Director for Surveys until the close of the year when he retired from Government service on the completion of the current survey programme. Mr. Freeman's service under Government extended over 40 years, during which he had carried out the survey of a large portion of the United Provinces before he was chosen to control the operations in progress. His knowledge of the local conditions affecting the work was unrivalled and his zeal unflagging.

Tours of officers.

3. My own tours need not be detailed here. The junior Civilians' instruction class was not held in November 1907 owing to press of famine work.

4. In his cold weather camping tours Mr. Willoughby visited the districts of Aligarh, Bulandshahr, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur. In March he conducted the examination of the students of the Agricultural College at Cawnpore and of the survey class at Unao, and inspected the headquarters work at Unao. In April he inspected headquarters work at Jalaun, Allahabad, Partabgarh, Kheri and Pilibhit, and in the rains at Shahjahanpur, Bijnor, Budaun, Cawnpore, Agra, Mainpuri, Benares, Ballia, Azamgarh and Sitapur.

5. The Deputy Director for Surveys in the period October 1907 to June 1908 toured in Banda on cadastral survey duty and in Kheri, Bahraich, Sitapur, Rampur State and Naini Tal district on boundary demarcation duty. During the rains he completed the boundary maps on which he had been engaged and wound up the survey operations.

Special features.

6. The principal feature of the year's work has been the preparation of the revised Land Records Manual. The chief alterations embodied in the Manual are—

(*a*) an improved method of scrutinizing agricultural statistics, including rent collections, with the object of assuring to the Collector accurate information about his district and to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture accurate information about the province ;

(*b*) the insistence on the responsibility of the patwari in recording tenancy mutations as a matter of routine, and of the supervisor to check these mutations, and the incidental stoppage of the introduction of these cases into revenue courts ;

(*c*) the abolition of the closing khewat ;

(*d*) the combination of the khatauni and jamabandi.

The preparation of this manual marks a definite stage in the work on which, with the assistance of successive Deputy Directors, I have been engaged during the last ten years. The objects of the changes which have been introduced have been the removal of all superfluous work, the improvement of the position of the staff and the clear definition of the responsibilities of each grade of officials. I would not be thought to suggest that finality has been reached, but I think it probable that for some time to come organic changes will be fewer than in the last decade, and that the chief problem of the immediate future will be to secure the efficient working of the machine. For this object the one indispensable requirement is adequate supervision by the district gazetted staff, and I have felt it incumbent on me to point out that this can be obtained only by a considerable increase in the strength of that staff in the more important districts—a conclusion which is, I believe, in accord with that drawn from the working of other branches of the administration.

The year has seen the completion of the current programme of survey operations, and as no surveys are required for settlement in the immediate future, the survey branch of the department has now been abolished. Here again I am not prepared to say that finality has been reached : it ought to be possible to do without further surveys in most, if not all, of the districts where the maps are based on professional traverse, but it seems to me to be probable that a time will come when those districts of which the maps have no such basis will have to be resurveyed. For the present however the maps will serve, and the only immediate inconvenience resulting from the abolition of the branch is that we shall no longer be able to assist other departments with the loan of expert surveyors for special work.

CHAPTER II.

Land Records.

Establishment.

7. The further proposals made last year regarding the grading of those supervisors who are not diplomates were sanctioned during the year under report. It was decided that such supervisors will now be eligible for promotion to the higher grades if the Collector finds that they have shown as high a degree of efficiency and capacity as is expected from diplomates similarly selected for promotion. The grading of assistant teachers of patwari schools has been fixed and brought into operation. Proposals for the revised pay and grading of sadr kanungos have been submitted to Government.

Revision of circles.

8. The schemes for revision of patwaris' pay and circles in Cawnpore and Hamirpur were sanctioned and introduced during the year under report and a similar scheme for Dehra Dun was given effect to. The Azamgarh scheme is still under consideration and the Banda scheme is awaiting the figures for the Karwi pargana. Recommendations on the subject of the maintenance of the voluntary contributions of zamindars towards certain patwaris' circles have been submitted to the Board of Revenue.

Promotion of kanungos.

9. No sadr kanungo was appointed permanently as a tahsildar or selected as an approved candidate for that post. The sadr kanungo of Jaunpur officiated as tahsildar for 2½ months, and the second sadr kanungo of Basti who has been officiating as naib tahsildar was made sub. *pro tem.* during the year. In six districts Aligarh,

Bulandshahr, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Cawnpore and Gonda, supervisor kanungos were promoted to be sadr kanungos. Two supervisors were permanently appointed as naib tahsildars and two were appointed sub. *pro tem.*, and six more were selected as approved candidates for that post. A large number of supervisors were appointed as temporary naib tahsildars or circle officers in connection with the administration of famine operations. One supervisor was appointed to the subordinate agricultural service.

Promotion of patwaris.

10. Eleven patwaris were appointed as permanent assistant registrar kanungos and a considerable number of others received temporary promotion as assistant registrars and assistant supervisors to fill vacancies caused by the employment of the permanent staff on famine work. Ten patwaris were exempted by the Director from the educational test.

Education of patwaris.

11. There has been a slight increase in the number of patwaris who hold the patwari school certificate and their percentage is now somewhat above 93, the figure reported last year. The exemptions have fallen by 98 and the percentage of exempted patwaris is now 3 only. The number of unpassed patwaris has fallen from 1,074 to 1,035 and the bulk of the latter figure is composed of posts vacant and heirs appointed conditionally.

12. The patwari school inspector reports that the improvement in the standard of teaching in the schools continues and the reorganisation of the staff of assistant teachers (paragraph 7) should give good results. The reasonable housing of patwari schools continues to receive attention. In the year under report 2 new schools were constructed and 4 projects for new buildings were sanctioned. The patwari school at Jaunpur was closed in the year under report owing to a plethora of qualified candidates in the district.

Residence of patwaris.

13. Doubtless owing to the hardships entailed by scarcity conditions Collectors were not fully insistent on the residence of patwaris in the year under report, and the percentage of resident patwaris fell from 80 to 79. The percentage of patwaris exempted however fell from 10 per cent. to 9 per cent., and with the restoration of normal agricultural conditions improvement in the percentage of resident patwaris may be expected. The districts which show the greatest increase in the number of non-resident patwaris are Mainpuri, Banda, Ballia, Azamgarh and Kheri. In Mainpuri the Collector is taking steps to ensure better results next year. In Banda and Azamgarh action is suspended pending the reallocation schemes. In Ballia the explanation offered is the large number of new appointments made, necessitating a time allowance for house construction. In Kheri the explanation given is that careful enquiry into the reality of residence by patwaris has disclosed the fact that some patwaris returned as resident were not actually resident and these cases are being dealt with by the Deputy Commissioner.

14. A grant of Rs. 2,000 was made to the Collector of Mirzapur as a special case for making advances to patwaris for house building in the jungly portion of the district. The old advances made elsewhere have been recovered in full.

Filing of patwaris' statements.

15. Famine administration, which included the deputation of a large proportion of the supervisors to famine work and the substitution for them of patwaris acting as assistant kanungos, interfered greatly with land records work, and caused the late submission of all statements except the rabi crop statements which, being essential to famine arrangements, were prepared in due time.

The percentage of area statements filed within due date fell from 94 to 88, of kharif crop statements from 92 to 84, of statements of holdings and rentals from 94 to 89, whilst that of rabi crop statements rose from 95 to 99. The statements of all the districts in the provinces except four under settlement inclusive of Azamgarh were however completely filed within one month of the correct date. Considering the circumstances this result may be regarded as very satisfactory. In Bijnor, Benares, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Basti and Fyzabad all the records were filed on or before the due date, whilst in Aligarh, Muttra, Jalaun and Lucknow despite the famine but few statements were late. Most delay occurred in Dehra Dun, Pilibhit, Gorakhpur, Naini Tal, Sitapur, Kheri, Bahraich, Sultanpur and

Bara Banki. Gorakhpur has made a considerable advance in punctuality on last year's results. In Naini Tal new forms were introduced into the Bhabar tracts and caused delay from their unfamiliarity.

In G. G. O. No. 2424-202—2 of 18th December 1906, the Government of India directed that there should be no break in agricultural returns during settlement. Incomplete returns were, however, received from Banda and Moradabad in the year under report. In Banda famine work prevented the submission of complete returns. The case of Moradabad is being dealt with by the Board of Revenue.

Testing by supervisors.

16. Taking the province as a whole the amount of khasra testing done just reached the minimum prescribed. Verification of khatauni was below the prescribed minimum whilst the test of the khatauni and jamabandi exceeded it. The prescribed figure in verification of the khatauni was reached in but few districts. In addition to the famine the usual reason for the deficiency was stated to be the unfamiliarity of the work. Verifications were particularly low in Muttra, Gorakhpur, Lucknow and Kheri. Khasra testing was deficient in Budaun, Pilibhit, Gorakhpur and Kheri. In Gorakhpur the disregard of sub-divisions of fields in the count of the numbers tested was responsible for the deficiency.

The substitution of slow working patwaris for trained supervisors in consequence of the stress of famine superintendence must be accepted as a valid general reason for the poor work in the direct supervision of patwaris. The percentage of errors in khasra testing was about the same as in the last year. In khatauni and jamabandi testing it was lower. Errors were most numerous in Gorakhpur, Basti and Unao. Khatauni verification was not carried out last year.

Testing by superior officers.

17. It is gratifying to note that superior officers tested the work of at least one-half of the supervisors in nearly all the districts. In Mainpuri and Budaun nearly all the supervisors' circles were inspected. It must however be remembered that an inspection of a supervisor is of insufficient value unless it results in the record of a definite finding as to the value of his work. In this respect the testing by superior officers is still very faulty.

Turning to statistics the effects of the stress of famine work are at once seen as there is a large decrease in the number of records tested. Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Etah, Bareilly, Ghazipur, Basti and Fyzabad however show an increase. The tendency to devote too much attention to the patwari's work and too little to that of the supervisor's is still noticeable in Etah, Fyzabad and Partabgarh.

The percentage of error for the province as a whole was below that of last year, which was I think due to a want of thoroughness in the inspections in consequence of the stress of famine work.

18. Testing work done by tahsildars was under the circumstances fair in quality except in Dehra Dun and Jaunpur.

19. Khasra and jamabandi testing by sadr kanungos has decreased in the year, but there was considerable improvement in the testing of khewats and khataunis. Considering the extra work involved in the famine enquiries the sadr kanungo staff may be said to have worked satisfactorily and the amount of touring done by them was as a rule adequate.

Maintenance of boundary marks.

20. The new rules have been worked in all the districts during the year and they have resulted in much greater efficiency in repairs to boundary marks.

Map correction.

21. The maps of the province of Agra are reported to have been brought up to date by the patwaris themselves or by hired agency. In Shahjahanpur, Banda and Fatehpur map correction is backward owing to the pressure of work due to famine. In the Puranpur tahsil of Pilibhit fluctuating cultivation is rendering the maintenance of correct maps extremely difficult. The same difficulty is met with in the alluvial villages of Ballia. From Basti comes the same complaint as last year that the patwaris are too overworked to do justice to their maps.

22. As regards Oudh, of the 29 maps in Sitapur remaining for correction 25 have been brought up to date, and the resurvey of the Bhitauli pargana has brought the Bara Banki maps up to standard.

Concealment of rents.

23. Cases of concealment of rents were reported from nine districts. In Gorakhpur rents were attested in 1,265 villages during the year, and the concealed rents amounted to Rs. 1,24,445. At the Raja's request a special supervisor has been sanctioned for the attestation of rents in the Padrauna estate. Additions to the rent-rolls amounting to Rs. 17,600 were made in the Basti district, bringing the total to nearly five and a half lakhs in the last four years. In this district, model forms of agreements and seven years' leases are printed locally and offered to the public at a low price. During the year 2,223 leases and 7,016 agreements were attested by supervisors. About 8,000 fictitious khudkasht entries were detected, while the names of absconded tenants were removed from 37,500 fields.

As regards the state of the khewats in Gorakhpur and Basti, which has to be reported on under the orders of the Board of Revenue, the Collector of Gorakhpur reports an appreciable improvement and hopes for more progress from the saving of work to registrar kanungos consequent on the abandonment of the closing khewat. In Basti the mutation work has been kept fairly well up to date. The systematic testing of the khewats by tracing them from the settlement khewat with the aid of the mutation register continued, but this work was interfered with by takavi accounts.

Preparation and maintenance of tahsil registers.

24. The new registers for Naini Tal were prepared by one of the special offices of this department during the year. The other special office finished the compilation of the circle registers in Bareilly, Budaun, Shahjahanpur and Bijnor.

The new pargana and mauza registers for parganas Hamirpur, Sumerpur and Maudaha were completed and made over by the Hamirpur settlement office to the district in the year under report. In Moradabad these registers are still under preparation in the settlement office. The standard of accuracy in the compilation of these registers is speaking generally much higher than was the case a few years ago, but the explanatory notes, which—if properly made—add so greatly to the value of the records, are still in many cases unsatisfactory. It is hoped that the rules embodied in the new manual will lead to material improvement in this matter.

25. Pargana handbooks of parganas Pailani and Banda of the Banda district, and of parganas Hamirpur, Sumerpur, and Maudaha of the Hamirpur district, were issued during the year. The belated handbook of pargana Bisalpur in the Pilibhit district has now been received from Mr. Fergusson, I.C.S., and is in the press. The handbooks of Jalaun are still due.

Officers' inspections.

26. There is nothing to record regarding the inspections made by the Deputy Directors beyond the enumeration of them in paragraphs 4 and 5.

27. No special officers could be spared by Government for land records work during the year owing to the exigencies of famine administration.

28. The departmental inspectors continued their regular inspections and were sometimes employed on special enquiries.

Amendments of rules.

29. The chief amendments of rules embodied in the new edition of the circulars have been already given in paragraph 6.

CHAPTER III.

Survey and Revision of records.

30. The programme for the year consisted in completing the records of the Banda district, the survey of which was completed in 1906-07, and the disposal of some intricate boundary disputes between (1) Kheri and Bahraich, (2) Bahraich and Sitapur, and (3) Naini Tal and the Rampur State; the two former on the basis of revenue surveys made in 1866-68, and the last from the cadastral surveys of 1888-90. In addition to this the original maps and area statements of 233 villages in ten other districts of the United Provinces had to be revised in accordance with fresh decisions arrived at by different courts in boundary dispute cases, and also owing to extensions in railways subsequent to the completion of survey operations in the districts concerned.

The staff employed for this work was the whole of the Banda party till the end of March 1908 and a small section of traverse and cadastral surveyors employed, under the immediate control of the Deputy Director, on the resurveys which had to be made to reconcile the old surveys of 1866–68 and 1888–90 with the more recent cadastral surveys of 1896–98.

31. *Banda cadastral section.*—(Mr. F. B. Powell in charge till 1st January 1908, when he reverted to the Survey of India, after which Thakur Lekhraj Singh, Deputy Collector, held charge.) The records of 128 villages of the 389 in tahsils Mau and Karwi surveyed during the previous season remained to be completed on 1st October 1907, and it was hoped at the outset that these would be finished by end of December; but owing to the recall of the patwaris to their circles which was necessitated by the unfavourable season, the records were not completed before the 31st March 1908, by which date they were all handed over to the settlement department. The maps and area statements of villages in which canals have been constructed since completion of survey have also been rectified up to date of completion of work.

One difficulty experienced by the settlement department in attesting khewats of villages through which the railway line passes is the difference in areas between the railway and survey figures. The cause of this was explained to the settlement officer and is chiefly attributable to the demarcation on the ground, on which the revised surveys are based, differing in many places from the railway maps, which are not only drawn on a different scale to the settlement maps, but do not always correspond with the demarcation.

The additional cost incurred on the completion of the records amounts to Rs. 10,230, thereby raising the total cost of the survey of Banda to Rs. 1,27,264, which works out to rates of Rs. 25-8-8 and Rs. 16-1-5 per square mile respectively, for survey and preparation of records on the total area of the district. If a moiety of the headquarters expenditure for the year is added to that of the Banda party for supervision, the combined rate for the district will be raised to Rs. 44-2-10 per square mile, or Rs. 2-11-10 per square mile less than the rate in Hamirpur.

On the completion of the work the party was disbanded and Thakur Lekhraj Singh reverted to district duty, where, it is hoped, his survey training will be of service in many ways. He took a keen interest in his work, and proved an able assistant to the survey officers of both Hamirpur and Banda.

32. *Boundary disputes.*—(1) Kheri and Bahraich.—The disputes between these two districts had been in existence for several years, and though endeavours were made between 1895 and 1900 to dispose of them whilst settlement operations were in force no satisfactory arrangements could be arrived at. Many of the disputes on the Bahraich side being connected with the Forest department, proposals were made by the Conservator of Forests, Oudh Circle, to the Chief Secretary to Government, in January 1900, to depute a professional survey officer to relay the old boundary from the revenue survey maps of 1866–68. This was agreed to by Government and accepted by the parties concerned. Mr. Scott, Superintendent of provincial surveys at the time, was accordingly directed to take necessary action which he did by redemarcating the old district boundary during the field season of 1900-01. There was however some delay in marking the boundary permanently on the ground, and renewal of the disputes resulted while some fresh disputes occurred. Captain Coldstream, late Superintendent of provincial surveys, was accordingly directed to arrange for the demarcation; but the demarcation on the ground was again defective and eventually the Deputy Director of surveys relaid the whole boundary between November 1907 and April 1908, on the basis of fresh traverse and topographical surveys in which connections were effected between the surveys made of the two districts both in 1867–68 and 1896–98, thereby providing reliable data for the marking of the old village boundaries on the ground. Representatives of all the parties concerned with the disputes were in attendance during the whole time and rendered every assistance in effectively marking the newly demarcated boundaries.

The present demarcation concerned nine villages of the Kheri district and two forest blocks and seven villages of Bahraich. The alterations in boundaries were so great that 76 of the original maps of the Kheri villages and 45 of Bahraich as well as the area statements and traces supplied by the settlement department for district

use had to be corrected under the supervision of the Deputy Director. Fresh traces of the revised boundaries of each village on the scale of 16 inches to the mile as well as a combined map on the scale of 4 inches to the mile of all the villages affected by the redemarcation have been submitted to each district for record and future reference, if necessary.

A combined map on the scale of two inches to the mile of all villages in which changes have been made since survey has also been prepared and forwarded to the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, to provide corrections in future issues of standard Sheet No. 180 of the United Provinces.

The total cost incurred on this work including a proportionate share of the headquarters charges amounts to Rs. 4,787, half of which is recoverable from the proprietors of the villages in Bahraich and the remaining half from those concerned in Kheri.

33. (2) Bahraich and Sitapur.—This dispute only concerned one village in each district; it had been previously disposed of by the district authorities on the basis of the old 4-inch revenue survey, but defective demarcation followed, which has now been rectified and the cost recovered. The original maps and area statements of the above villages together with the district copies of these records have been rectified accordingly.

34. (3) Naini Tal and Rampur State.—Disputes here were frequent along the line of the Kosi river owing to the destruction of boundary pillars resulting from fluvial action. The Board of Revenue, in their order No. 4451/XII—254A., dated 14th December 1906, directed that steps should be taken to re-mark the old boundary line; the necessary records were not received from the Surveyor-General's office until June 1907, and operations had to stand over until the conclusion of the rains. In January 1908 an attempt was made to start the demarcation, but the depth of water in the Kosi did not admit of chain measurements being taken across it, and work was eventually started in April and completed by the end of May to the satisfaction of both sides as the foundations of many of the old masonry pillars were traced with the aid of the traverse data. The boundary has now been marked by 97 stone pillars and 43 *sal* posts. The sub-divisional officers of parganas Bazpur and Kashipur and representatives of the Rampur State were in constant attendance whilst operations were being carried out, and rendered every assistance in marking the newly laid boundary lines. The maps and areas of all the villages connected with the disputes have been corrected up to date and a trace of the new boundary lines with detailed surveys of fields etc. up to 10 chains on either side have been supplied to the Deputy Commissioner of Naini Tal and the Settlement Officer of the Rampur State for record in their respective offices. The cost incurred on this demarcation (including a share of the headquarters charges) amounts to Rs. 3,002, half of which is debitable to Naini Tal, and the remainder to the Rampur State.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. MORELAND,

Director.

ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT.

No. $\frac{478}{\text{I}-161}$ of 1909.

FROM

THE HON'BLE MR. J. W. HOSE,

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

UNITED PROVINCES,

To

THE JOINT SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

UNITED PROVINCES.

DATED ALLAHABAD, THE 15TH MARCH 1909.

SIR,

REVENUE DEPT. I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt, under cover of your letter no. $\frac{41}{\text{VII}-47\text{-}5}$, dated the 17th February 1909, of the report on the administration of the land records in the United Provinces for the year ending 30th September 1908, and to say that the Lieutenant Governor is glad to observe the good work done by all officers in the matter of land records during the year.

2. I am to add that the questions of strengthening the district staff for supervision of land records (as well as for other purposes), and of improving the pay of sadr kanungos, have had to be shelved temporarily for want of funds.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

J. W. HOSE,

Chief Secretary.

REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 1909.

ALLAHABAD:

PRINTED BY F. LUKER, SUPDT., GOVERNMENT PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES.

1910.

[Prescribed maximum limit of the report, 10 pages.]

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Nil.

REPORT

ON THE

Administration of the Land Records

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1909.

No. 910/I—203A.

FROM

THE HON'BLE MR. H. J. HOARE, I.C.S.,
OFFG. DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE,
UNITED PROVINCES,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
UNITED PROVINCES.

Dated Lucknow, the 26th January 1910.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the report on the administration of the land records for the year ending 30th September 1909.

CHAPTER I.

PREFATORY.

Officers on the staff.

2. Mr. W. H Moreland, C.I.E., I.C.S., was in charge of the department throughout the year. I assumed charge after its close. The office of Deputy Director of Land Records was held by Mr. R. W. D. Willoughby, I.C.S., until the 16th November 1908, from which date I assumed charge.

Tours of officers.

3. The tours of the Director are not now primarily concerned with land records and require no mention here. The junior civilians' training class was held by the Director at Cawnpore in November.

4. In my cold weather tour as Deputy Director I visited the districts of Rae Bareli, Bara Banki, Sultanpur, Azamgarh, Allahabad, Banda, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Hardoi and Meerut. After this in March I examined the survey class and also the students of the Cawnpore Agricultural College in practical surveying at Unao. After this I held the training class of probationary deputy collectors, also at Unao. In April I visited the headquarters stations of Bareilly, Bara Banki, Basti, Gonda, Fyzabad, Kheri and Budaun and during my rains tour Jhansi, Moradabad, Bahraich, Gorakhpur, Azamgarh and Allahabad.

I also held a departmental examination of the kanungo candidates of the Cawnpore Agricultural College.

5. No survey operations were conducted during the year, this branch having been abolished last year.

Special features.

6. No innovations have actually been introduced during the year. The introduction of so many radical changes in the previous year necessitated a period of quiescence, in which the staff may accustom themselves to the new system. Their assimilation of the altered methods has been on the whole rapid and accompanied by a minimum of misunderstanding and friction.

CHAPTER II.

LAND RECORDS.

Establishment.

7. The proposals made for the regrading on higher rates of pay of sadr kanungos and supervisor kanungos are awaiting the Secretary of State's sanction. If approved it should do much to remove the present shortage of suitable candidates.

A scheme which has obtained the general approval of the Board of Revenue for largely strengthening the staff of patwaris in the Gorakhpur district is at present being worked out in detail.

Revision of circles.

8. The scheme for the reallocation of the patwaris' circles in the Azamgarh district was completed during the year and has since been submitted for sanction.

Petty re-allocations of a few circles have been carried out in several districts. In cases where voluntary contributions for the maintenance or institution of special circles were concerned, the principles sanctioned by Government were adhered to (1) that where the circle is unduly small and the landholders decline amalgamation, the contribution is maintained at the present rate for the term agreed on (2) where the circle is large enough to justify the appointment of a separate patwari, the contribution has been discontinued.

Promotion of kanungos.

9. No sadr kanungo was appointed either permanent or temporary tahsildar.

Three supervisors were promoted to permanent posts of sadr kanungo, while two others were given officiating appointments. Fifteen officiated as naib-tahsildars apart from the large number who were employed on takavi work. Two were promoted to posts of reader and peshkar outside the department and one received an appointment in the subordinate agricultural service.

No permanent appointments to naib-tahsildarships were made, but four diplomates were selected as approved candidates for that post. One diplomate of the Agricultural College was selected by Director as an approved candidate for naib-tahsildarship and was appointed to officiate during the year.

Promotion of patwaris.

10. Fifteen patwaris were promoted permanently to posts of assistant registrar, assistant sadr kanungos and supervisor kanungos. Eight men were exempted by the Director from the educational test. Selected patwaris are also occasionally employed as partition amins, but they are seldom found suitable for permanent employment in these posts.

Education of patwaris.

11. The number of patwaris holding the patwari school certificate has again slowly increased from 93·21 per cent. of the whole staff to 93·4 per cent. The number of patwaris exempted from passing the examination has fallen by half per cent. from 3·1 to 2·6. The number of those neither exempted nor passed has risen from 3·6 to 3·9 per cent. The majority of these last occupy posts actually vacant or are heirs under training appointed conditionally on their passing the examination.

12. The standard of teaching in the patwari schools is reported to continue to improve. An assistant teacher has been appointed temporarily to the school at Dehra Dun and if circumstances require it, the appointment will be made a permanent one. Improvements to the buildings in which the schools are held are carried out as funds permit. A new building has been completed in Mainpuri and funds have been allotted for repairs of the schools at Meja in the Allahabad district and at Basti. Sanction has been obtainted to the construction of two new schools at Jalaun and at Shahjahanpur.

Residence of patwaris.

13. Much attention is being paid to this matter and the ground lost during the famine and scarcity of last year is being slowly regained, and the percentage of resident patwaris which had fallen from 80 to 79 has now nearly re-attained the previous figure. Of the remaining 20 per cent., over 9 per cent. have been specially exempted from the obligation of residence within their circles. Continued improvement in this respect may be expected.

14. The districts where the proportion of non-residence has increased are ten in number, Azamgarh, (where however a new re-allocation of circles has just been effected), Muttra, Etah, Shahjahanpur, Basti, Sitapur, Bahraich, Partabgarh, Bara Banki and Allahabad. In the latter three districts the increase is said to be adventitious; in the remaining seven action is being taken. Advances of Rs. 30 each were given to two patwaris in the Hamirpur district to assist them in building.

Filing of patwaris' statements.

15. Considerable improvement is shown by these statistics, as was to be expected with the return to normal conditions after the famine.

The percentage of area statements filed within due date rose from 88 to 97, that of autumn crop statements from 84 to 91 and that of holdings and rentals from 89 to 97. The percentage however of spring crop statements fell from 99 to 95. The patwaris were delayed in their spring tour by the cattle census held during January and in the previous famine year the urgent need for early returns of the rabi area made for punctuality. Heavy takavi work interfered with the patwaris in a good many districts during their autumn tour. All other records were everywhere filed within one month of due date except in the case of the districts of Moradabad and Banda, where the patwaris were unable to return from settlement to their ordinary duties till late. Apart from these two districts, only 57 patwaris' returns were sent in more than one month late out of over half a million.

In Farrukhabad, Bijnor, Fatehpur, Jalaun, Benares, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Ballia and Basti no single return was late by a day, in Fyzabad only two were late. The most dilatory districts were Muttra and Budaun where the matter is receiving attention.

Testing by supervisors.

16. Khasra testing throughout the provinces was satisfactory in quantity being appreciably over the prescribed minimum. In only one district, Azamgarh, did it fall below 7 per cent.

The verification of the khatauni is practically up to the standard and shews a very marked improvement over last year's figures. The districts where this check was not fully up to the standard numbered 15, the lowest figures coming from Meerut, Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Pilibhit, Budaun and Unao. On the other hand Cawnpore, Jalaun and Sultanpur shew very good work. Both the khatauni and jamabandi tests were considerably above the prescribed minimum, specially in the case of the former, the percentage for the provinces being 12·4 and the prescribed minimum only 5 per cent. No district did less than the prescribed test except Ghazipur, where the test of the jamabandi fell slightly below the minimum, while that of the khatauni was far above it. The percentage of errors found was similar to that of last year. In the khasra the figure falls from 4·0 to 3·6, in the verification of the khatauni it rises from 1·9 to 2·2, while in case of the khatauni-jamabandi test it remains unaltered at 1·9 and 2·7. Only seven districts show errors amounting to over 5 per cent. in the khasra, and only three in the case of the jamabandi. No district showed conspicuously bad figures.

Testing by superior officers.

17. The number of kanungos' circles tested by superior officers is again satisfactory. In no less than ten districts, Meerut, Farrukhabad, Etah, Cawnpore, Banda, Ghazipur, Rae Bareli, Bahraich, Bara Banki and Mainpuri every supervisor's work was inspected, whereas at least half were tested in nearly every district except Jalaun and Sitapur. The number of entries checked was inadequate in a few districts, notably Dehra Dun, Bahraich and Pilibhit. The numbers, however, generally showed a very large increase owing to relief from the pressure of famine operations. The difficulty of getting a clear opinion on the value of each supervisor's work together with the grounds of that opinion will, it is hoped, be obviated by the introduction of a simple form, which has received the approval of the Board of Revenue.

The percentage of error discovered has in all cases risen considerably, this is probably due to greater care on the part of inspecting officers. The tendency to devote time to original test of patwaris' entries at the expense of the re-test of entries already checked by the supervisor kanungos is noticeable still, but only in ten districts, of which the most conspicuous are Jhansi, Meerut and Budaun.

18. The testing done by tahsildars and naib-tahsildars also shows a considerable increase over last year's work. That of sadr kanungos also increased generally

in every branch throughout the provinces, and, except in a few cases, the amount of touring done was adequate, being appreciably below the standard in only six districts.

Maintenance of boundary marks.

19. The working of the new rules has resulted in every district reporting that the condition of these marks is satisfactory, except in the hill districts of Dehra Dun and Naini Tal. In the former the matter is receiving attention, the latter reports special difficulties.

Map correction.

20. The maps of the Agra province are reported to be as a rule up-to-date. In the Pilibhit tarai and in parts of Bundelkhand fluctuating cultivation is a standing difficulty and the matter is at present under consideration. In Ballia, where difficulty is experienced in alluvial villages, the staff has been strengthened. In Basti special attention is being paid to the maps.

21. The revision of settlement in many villages of Moradabad on the basis of the annual records without the aid of a revision of maps or of a full attestation has resulted in trouble with respect to the maps and records. Proposals for a special staff are now being considered.

22. As regards Oudh, the arrears of map correction which had accumulated in Hardoi have been worked off, and the work is approaching completion. All other districts except Unao report that their maps are up-to-date.

Concealment of rents.

23. Concealment of rents was reported from 12 districts. The special supervisor kanungo sanctioned last year in Gorakhpur for the Raja of Padrauna's estate is still so employed; during the year Rs. 55,517 of concealed rents were detected. In the Agra district also Rs. 3,595 have similarly been added to the rent-roll. In Basti improvement is slow but continues.

The use of model lease and agreement forms by the public in the Basti district referred to last year is not increasing as might have been hoped, the number of leases attested during the year was only 1,402 and of agreements 1,991, a large falling off from last year's results.

The condition of the khewats in Gorakhpur appears now to be much improved. The khewats of all tahsils were examined during the year by the special and sub-divisional officers as well as by the sadr kanungos and tahsildars. The Collector reports that no grave errors were found. Special efforts are being made to keep the posting of mutations up to date. In many villages the khewats are naturally enormously bulky and are much swollen by frequent short-term mortgages and redemptions of small plots.

The Collector of Basti reports steady progress in the correction of khewats, no less than 27,300 mistakes having been rectified. Mutation work continues to be very heavy.

Preparation and maintenance of tahsil registers.

24. Tahsil registers are reported generally as up to date. Notes on abnormal statistics in the mauza registers however still tend to be of little value. Notes on pargana books also need more care.

Circle and tract registers have been prepared by the special staff during this year in the districts of Sitapur, Kheri, Rae Bareli, Gonda, Bulandshahr, Meerut and Etah.

25. The following pargana handbooks have been issued:—District Pilibhit, pargana Bisalpur; district Banda, parganas Baberu, Kamasin and Girwan; district Hamirpur, parganas Rath, Muskara and Mahoba; district Moradabad, parganas Thakurdwara, Moradabad and Sambhal; district Jalaun, those of the whole district.

Officers' inspections.

26. The Deputy Director's tour has been referred to in Chapter I. Two officers, Messrs. E. Bennet, I.C.S., and J. M. Clay, I.C.S., were deputed to the Gorakhpur district for special land records work. Their work was thorough and systematic, and has resulted in the removal of three of the least efficient supervisors to other posts and in minor punishments in the case of several others. The proposed large increase in the staff of patwaris resultant on this special inspection work and the action taken against a large number of patwaris guilty of bad work should result in a considerable improvement in the condition of the records of this district.

27. The departmental inspectors continued their regular inspections. On the conclusion of a settlement an inspector was in each case sent to assist in re-starting the normal course of work.

28. No amendments of any importance were made during the year. The new Manual embodying all previous amendments was prepared during the year and published just after its close.

Amendment of rules.

CHAPTER III.

SURVEY AND REVISION OF RECORDS.

29. The staff has been disbanded.

I have the honour to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant,

H. J. HOARE,
Officiating Director.

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Digitized with financial assistance from

Government of Maharashtra

on 01 February, 2020